

Spotlight – 2018 “Best of” Lists & Recaps

Ongoing updates throughout December 2018. Missing a favorite list? Post a recommendation to the KYAC listserv!

Library Trade Publications:

- **Publisher’s Weekly:**
 - [Children's Starred Reviews 2018](#)
 - [Best Children’s and YA Books of 2018](#)
- **School Library Journal:**
 - [Best Books of 2018](#)
 - [Best Adult Books 4 Teens](#)
 - ***NEW*** [Top 10 Graphic Novels of 2018](#) (all ages)
 - ***NEW*** [Top 10 Audiobooks](#)
 - ***NEW*** [Top 10 Children’s Music](#)
- **Kirkus “rolling” 2018 Best Lists:**
 - [Picture Books](#)
 - [Middle Grade](#)
 - ***NEW*** [Young Adult](#)

Library Media & Blogs:

- **2018 Best Children's & Teen Books of the Year** via [Shelf Awareness](#)
- **2018 Best Books for Kids** via [New York Public Library](#)
- **Chicago Public Library’s Best Books of 2018 – from Board Books to Manga –** via [CCPL website](#)
- ***NEW*** **31 Days, 31 Lists for 2018 “rolling” series** via Fuse 8 Blog
 - [Board Books & Pop-Up Books](#)
 - [Wordless Picture Books](#)
 - [Picture Book Readalouds](#)
 - [Alphabet Books](#)
- **Board Books 2018: What We’ve Got Here Is an Oddly Strong Year** via [Fuse 8 Blog](#)
(Repost from Spring 2018 in light of year end reviews!)

National Media:

- **The 10 Best YA and Children’s Books of 2018** via [Time Magazine](#)
- **Kids Notables 2018** via [New York Times Book Review](#)
- **The 2018 New York Times/New York Public Library Best Illustrated Children’s Books** via [NYT](#)
- **Best Children’s Books of 2018** via [The Washington Post](#)
- (Guest Interview with Jason Reynolds)

Award Lists:

- **2018 Notable Children’s Books** via [Association of Library Services to Children](#)
- **2018 Youth Media Awards** via [American Library Association](#)
- **Children’s and Teen Book Choice Awards** via [Children’s Book Council](#)
- **National Book Award for Young People’s Literature** via [National Book Foundation](#)

Miscellany:

- **2018 Book Concierge** via [NPR](#)
- **Parents' 15 Best Books of 2018** via [Parent Magazine](#)
- **Best Kids' Books 2018 – 15 Captivating Reads for All Ages** via [PopSugar Family](#)
- **Best Children's Books of 2018** via [The Telegraph \(U.K.\)](#)
- ***NEW*** **The Best Books of 2018, According to Independent Bookstores** via [Southern Living Magazine](#)
- ***NEW*** **The 30 Best Young Adult Novels of 2018** via [Paste Magazine](#)
- **Choice Awards & Best Books of 2018** via [Goodreads](#): *(Long Lists – Winner announced Dec. 4)*
 - [Best Picture Books](#)
 - [Best Middle Grade & Children's](#)
 - [Young Adult Science Fiction & Fantasy](#)
 - [Young Adult Fiction](#)
 - [Best Debut Author \(ft. YA\)](#)
 - [Best Poetry \(ft. YA\)](#)
 - [Best Comics and Graphic Novels](#)

Summer Reading Updates**Webinar: Resource Overview for "A Universe of Stories"**

Tuesday, December 18, 4:00 PM EST/ 3:00 PM CST

Looking for activities, websites, how-to videos, training, and more for the 2019 Summer Reading Theme? Join the STAR Library Network for an overview of vetted, free resources available through NASA, the STAR Library Network, and the STEM Activity Clearinghouse. Presenters will walk you through how to find, access, and sort through – remember, availability doesn't always equal accessibility! - these resources and offer guidance on how your library can best utilize them! Register:

https://zoom.us/webinar/register/df2fa6a0aff0587ed746f627e8486654?timezone_id=America%2FNew_York

2019 CSLP Inspired Storytime – Space Chicken!

It's a bird (sort of...)! It's a plane (sort of...)! – It's Space Chicken!



"We held up 3 hula hoops, called each astronaut to the launchpad, counted down and the kids flew their space chicken to the moon and back!" Created by Children's Librarian, Blayne Borden, at Lexington Public Library, inspired by "Mousetranaut" at the [Cotsen Children's Library](https://cotsenchildrenslibrary.org/) & Early Childhood Center at Princeton University: <https://popgoesthepage.princeton.edu/houston-we-have-a-squeaker/>

Grant & Scholarship Opportunities

Scholarships Available! Power Up 2019: Conference in Leadership for Youth Services Managers

Registration is now open for *Power Up: A Conference in Leadership for Youth Services Managers and Staff*. The conference is scheduled for March 28-29th, 2019 in beautiful Madison, Wisconsin. Ten scholarships are available, which will fully cover the conference registration fee (\$300) for each winner! Scholarship applications are due by January 11. Please see the conference website for more information.

Full schedule, registration, scholarship info, and other details available here: <https://ischool.wisc.edu/continuing-education/power-up/2019>

Please contact Meredith Lowe with any questions, mclowe@wisc.edu or 608-890- 0364.

IMLS Accelerating Promising Practices for Small Libraries (APP) Grant Announcement

The Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) has launched a new special initiative, **Accelerating Promising Practices for Small Libraries (APP)**, and is accepting grant applications now through February 25, 2019. This new funding opportunity is designed specifically to strengthen the ability of small and rural libraries, archives, and related organizations to serve their communities. Award sizes range from \$10,000 to \$50,000.

Three categories of APP grants are available to applicants:

- **Transforming School Library Practice:** School libraries support learning and the development of critical thinking, creativity, and collaboration skills. IMLS is interested in furthering how school library professionals can serve as integral instructional partners to classroom teachers. Grant projects could include programs and services that prepare students for success in college, career, and life, or foster early, digital, information, health, financial, media, civic, and other types of literacies.
- **Community Memory:** Libraries and archives not only serve as stewards of our nation's knowledge and collections, but also as trusted spaces for community engagement and dialogue. This project category centers on engaging local communities in the collection, documentation, and preservation of their local histories, experiences, and identities. Proposals could include events and programs to digitize materials related to community histories, such as photographs, artifacts, or texts, or oral history projects that involve community members in the documentation and preservation of local histories.
- **Digital Inclusion:** Libraries have an important role in promoting digital inclusion and increasing access to information, ideas, and networks. This category focuses on projects that support the role libraries play in promoting digital literacy, providing internet access, and enabling community engagement through civic data and civic technology. Grant proposals could include programs supporting broadband access and wireless networks to address the homework gap, increase small business development and entrepreneurship, or plan for emergency preparedness.

This grant opportunity is designed for small and rural libraries and archives, and applicants should consider how their organization might be a good fit. There are a number of ways to be “small,” and attributes of “small” libraries or archives could include:

- size of the staff and volunteer corps;
- operating budget and sources of revenue;
- size of the collection and range of services provided;
- size of facility and property;
- types, numbers, and geographic distribution of audiences served; and size relative to other organizations of the same discipline or within the same geographic region.

Learn more:

www.imls.gov/grants/available/accelerating-promising-practices-small-libraries

For details, see the notice of funding opportunity available at this link. Please also note the links to two pre-application webinars, which will be held with program staff to answer questions from potential applicants. The webinars, which will each cover the same material, are scheduled for Tuesday, December 18, 3:00-4:00 pm and Wednesday, January 9, 2:00-3:00 pm.

ALA News

Save the Date - 2019 ALA Youth Media Awards Webcast, January 28, 2019, at 11:00 am ET.

The American Library Association (ALA) will reveal the next classics in children's and young adult literature during its Youth Media Awards announcements at ALA Midwinter in Seattle. Libraries, schools

and book lovers from around the globe will follow the action live through ALA social media channels and the live webcast at ala.unikron.com.

Building a Home Library Booklists

Every two years, the ALA-Children's Book Council (CBC) Joint Committee, with cooperation from ALSC's Quicklists Consulting Committee, partner to create free Building a Home Library lists. These lists — organized by age groups from 0 to 14 — include tried-and-true classics, under-the-radar gems, multicultural books, and notable new reads. The 2018 list is here – links available at:

<https://www.cbcbooks.org/readers/reading-lists/building-a-home-library/>

Free Family Engagement Toolkit

Created in conjunction with the Public Library Association, the free Toolkit offers adaptable resources, including graphics and programming ideas, to promote library services that help families support their children's learning. Find it here: ilovelibraries.org/librariestransform/family-engagement-toolkit

To access the toolkit, you must register on the Libraries Transform website. Registration is free.

Library Trends

No permanent address? No problem. Berkeley library makes it easier for those without homes to get library cards via [American Libraries Magazine](#)

(Note: According to a [congressional research report](#) published in April 2018, "over 4 million youth ages 13 through 25 experienced a form of homelessness over a 12-month period.")

Teen Services Competencies for Library Staff: Develop the Relationships and the Behavior Will Take Care of Itself (Mostly) via [YALSA Blog](#)

YS Programming Trends

The Cart is the Thing: Making a Magnetic Mobile MakerSpace Wall When You're Short on Space via [Teen Librarian Toolbox](#)

Diversity in December via [American Association of School Librarians \(AASL\) Blog](#)

Picture Book Discussion Groups – for Adults via [Public Libraries Online](#)

Turn the Tables: L.A. County's DJ Training Program via [Public Libraries Online](#)
(Workforce Development programming that is teen-driven and teen- centered!)

Training Spotlight

KPLA Conference Proposals

The 2019 Kentucky Public Library Association conference – "Kentucky Libraries: Making Spaces" – will be held March 27-29, 2019 at the Marriott Griffin Gate in Lexington. The keynote speaker is Jacqueline Woodson! You can [submit proposals online](#) through Friday, January 18, 2019. For questions about the KPLA conference, please contact KPLA's Chair Elect, Ruthie Maslin, at 859-623-6704 or rmaslin@madisonlibrary.org.

Each December KDLA publishes the Kentucky Public Library Calendar. You can find the calendar at the link below:

<https://kdl.ky.gov/librarians/administrators/Documents/Filing%20Calendar.pdf>

Just for Fun

Because librarians have wish lists too...*17 Libraries That'll Make You Say, "My Library Needs That!"*
via [Buzzfeed](#)